

Serial No. 10/667,018
Attorney Docket No. 32159194.3

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present Application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks/arguments. Claims 1-20 were originally filed with the present Application. The Examiner has indicated that claims 1-10 are allowed, while claims 11-20 have been rejected. By the present Amendment, the Applicants have withdrawn claims 11-20 from consideration at this time, leaving claims 1-10 pending in the present Application.

I. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner has rejected claims 11-15, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,863,043 to Bitner. While the Applicants does not necessarily agree with the Examiner's rejection, claims 11-20 have been withdrawn from the present Application. Accordingly, this rejection is moot, and pending claims 1-10 remain allowed.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner has rejected claims 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly obvious in view of Bitner. As mentioned above, while the Applicants does not necessarily agree with the Examiner's rejection, claims 11-20 have been withdrawn from the present Application. Accordingly, this rejection is also moot, and pending claims 1-10 remain allowed.

III. CONCLUSION

The Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 1-10 are in condition for allowance, and request a Notice of Allowability for these pending claims. The Examiner is

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

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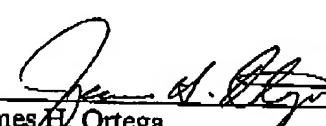
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invited to contact the undersigned Attorney of Record if such would expedite the prosecution of the present Application. Although no fees are believed to be due with this Amendment, if it is determined that additional fees are due, or an overcharge has occurred, please charge or credit Deposit Account No. 13-0480, referencing the Attorney Docket Number specified herein.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 28, 2004



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